

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 2, beginning at line 9 through line 23, amend the paragraph as follows:

As shown in Fig. 6A, which corresponds to JP-A-2000-103374, in a tension member 16 in which longitudinally (the circumferential direction A of the crawler, and referred simply as the "circumferential direction A", hereinafter) opposite edges 16a are cut along the direction orthogonal to the circumferential direction A and overlapped, longitudinal ends of tension cords 17 are linearly aligned in a widthwise direction B of the crawler (hereinafter, referred simply as the "widthwise direction B"). Therefore, it is obvious that bending rigidity of the tension member around the boundaries is significantly different between a single-ply portion (a portion of the tension member which is not overlapped) and a double-ply portion (a portion of the tension member which is overlapped). This results in an extreme variation in bending rigidity in the circumferential direction A, and thus improvement of the rubber crawler has been required.

At page 3, beginning at line 3 through line 16, amend the paragraph as follows:

In the tension member 16 shown in Fig. 6B, which corresponds to JP-A-2000-103374, since the ends of the tension cords 17 are aligned diagonally with respect to the widthwise direction B, the variation in rigidity around the boundaries between the single-ply portion and the double-ply portion in the circumferential direction A is alleviated. However, since a distance T in the circumferential direction A from one end to the other end of the longitudinal edge 16a of the tension member 16 in the circumferential direction A is smaller than an overlapping length L of an overlapped portion 18 of the tension member 16 ($T < L$) in the circumferential direction A, the tension member 16 is overlapped entirely in the widthwise direction B in the area shown by a letter J in Fig. 6B, and thus significant improvement of bending rigidity cannot be expected.

At page 6, beginning at line 12 through line 13, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Figs. 6A and 6B are plan views showing overlapped portions of tension members in the related conventional art.

At page 8, beginning at line 12 through line 18,
please amend the paragraph as follows:

Examples of the tension cord 7, which may be employed in this application, include a steel cord formed by twisting several bundles of several lengths of steel filament, other organic filament cords, such as a nylon cord or a ~~tetron~~ TETRON (polyethylene terephthalate fiber, which is a polyester-based synthetic fiber of Toray Industries, Inc. and Teijin Limited) cord formed of nylon or ~~tetron~~ TETRON filaments, and cords having a high tensile strength, such as an aramid fiber cord or a glass fiber cord.

At page 10, beginning at line 3 through line 10, amend the paragraph as follows:

In the ~~related conventional~~ art, significant reduction of rigidity of the overlapped portion of the elastic member cannot be expected unless the length of the overlapped portion of the tension cord is reduced. However, when the overlapped portion is reduced too much, a tensile strength of the overlapped portion cannot be maintained since the minimum value of the overlapping length is determined according to the strength of the tension cord.